



**PAK, IRAN FM'S HOLD
TALKS; AGREE TO DIAL
DOWN TENSIONS**

Pakistan Foreign Minister Jilani and his Iranian counterpart Hossein Amiri agreed on the need for closer cooperation on security issues | **MORE ON P14**

1 The talk came in the wake of their tit-for-tat missile strikes on each other's territory. Both countries described them as anti-terror operations

2 Pakistan's Additional Foreign Secretary Rahim Hayat Qureshi said the two countries share fraternal ties and must move forward to resolve all issues through positive dialogue

3 Besides, a meeting of Pakistan's National Security Council was underway on Friday night. The NSC is expected to frame guidelines for future ties with Iran

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Law panel may submit 'one poll' report next week

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

SETTING the ball rolling for the Centre's proposal of 'One Nation, One Poll', the 22nd Law Commission is likely to submit its final report on the feasibility of simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha, state assemblies and local bodies, to the Union law ministry next week, a top source in the ministry said. The Commission, headed by Justice Rituraj Awasthi, will recommend a full-fledged rollout of simultaneous polls by 2029, the source added. The Commission will suggest that the exercise be carried out in phases. For synchronised polls, the terms of some state assemblies may need curtailment or extension, which would require Constitutional amendments, the official said.

"The report has addressed all concerns related to Constitutional amendments. We have worked out a formula to synchronise all assembly polls by extending or reducing the tenure so that they can be held along with the Lok Sabha polls from 2029." This paper was the first to report on September 28 that the Law Commission is finalising its report on 'One Nation, One Poll' with likely timelines beginning 2024. The development comes amid the buzz that a high-level committee led by former president Ram Nath Kovind on 'One Nation, One Poll' may submit its report to the Union government in February or March ahead of the 2024 general elections. "The report will be considered by the Kovind panel," the source said.



EXPRESS READ

Stock markets to open today, close on Jan 22

NEW DELHI: Stock markets will remain closed on January 22, instead will work the full day on Saturday. The Maharashtra govt has announced a holiday on Monday in connection with the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, an official said. **P15**

EXPRESS INTAKE

Congress panel looks at candidates shortlist | **P6**
Hotel owner booked for denying entry to SC youths | **P7**

Boeing's B'luru push testimony to India's talent: PM

HRITHIK KIRAN BAGADE @ Bengaluru

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that the new state-of-the-art campus of Boeing India Engineering & Technology Center (BIETC) in Bengaluru is a testimony to the strides made by the country in the aviation sector. "This (BIETC) solidifies the pledge of 'Make in India, Made for the World'... this facility will not only give strength to India's aviation market, but also to the world market, while



Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves to the gathering, while Boeing COO Stephanie Pope looks on, in Bengaluru on Friday | **NAGARAJA GADGAL**

also strengthening the world's trust in India's talent," Modi said, after inaugurating the campus. "Today also celebrates the vision that through this facility, one day, India will design the aircraft of the future," the PM said. "Today is also a big day for the people of Karnataka. Last year, Asia's biggest helicopter facility opened here, and now, this global tech campus will add to the state's aviation potential. This shows how Karnataka is evolving as a big avia-

tion hub," he said. Sharing the Indian aviation growth story over the decade, the PM stressed that today, each stakeholder involved in the aviation market is beaming with newfound enthusiasm. From manufacturing to services, all are eyeing new possibilities in the country. In the last one decade, domestic passenger traffic more than doubled, while India emerged as the world's third largest domestic aviation market, boasting of close to 150 airports at present. **CONTINUED ON: P7**

FULL FACE OF IDOL SEEN FOR 1ST TIME

NAMITA BAIJAPAI @ Lucknow

THE first image of the full face of the new Ram Lalla idol surfaced on social media on Friday, days ahead of the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya on Monday, though the eyes of the deity continue to be covered at the consecration site. The image that has gone viral appears to have been taken when the idol

was at the workshop. This newspaper was the first to report that Ram Lalla's idol carved by Mysuru-based sculptor Arun Yogiraj was the final pick for consecration at the sanctum sanctorum. The 51-inch shyamal (dusky) idol, was placed in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple on Thursday afternoon. Meanwhile, the week-long rituals in

the run-up to the January 22 consecration entered the fourth day on Friday. With just three days left, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the Ayodhya Temple Construction Committee chairman Nripendra Mishra took stock of the preparations. Security has been tightened. Multiple teams of the NDRF that are trained to tackle chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attacks have been deployed. **P6**



Height 4.25ft Width 3ft Weight 1.5 tonnes



ARUN YOGIRAJ

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DAYS TO GO

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